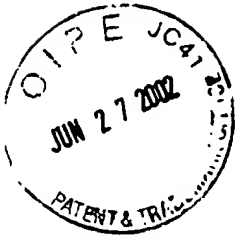


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

WILKINS, Thea A.

Application No.: 09/453,387

Filed: December 2, 1999

For: COTTON TRANSCRIPTION
FACTORS AND THEIR USES

Examiner: Kruse, D.

Art Unit: 1638

Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I, Thea Wilkins, hereby declare as follows:

I am the inventor of the claims under examination in the above-identified patent application.

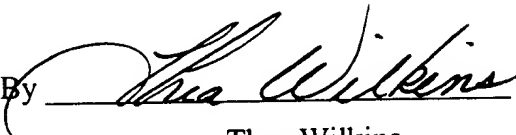
To the extent that the subject matter disclosed and claimed in the above-referenced application is also disclosed in Loguercio *et al.*, *Mol. Gen. Genet.* (1999) 261:660-671, I am the sole inventor of said subject matter. The other co-authors of the publication, L.L. Loguercio and J.-Q. Zhang, were working under my supervision and direction with regard to the subject matter disclosed in the publication. Although they co-authored the publication, they are not co-inventors of the subject matter described therein.

I further declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §

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1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated: 10 June 2002 By 
Thea Wilkins